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INSIDE  
Kira Starks  
celebrates her  
second  
birthday

# The Elba Clipper

Volume 105, Number 28

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, December 27, 2001

1 Section, 12 Pages

## The Elba Clipper takes a look back at 2001 before entering 2002

As the year 2001 draws to a close, join The Elba Clipper in taking a look back at what happened through material taken from the front pages of the year's editions.

### JANUARY

**January 4** - Elba BOE recognizes WZTZ/WELB for being named to the Alabama Media Honor Roll. Larry Goodson begins new year as chief of the Elba Fire Dept. Dorsey Trailers announces further actions under requirements of Bankruptcy Code.

**January 11** - (picture) - Ladies hang from the fountain at the Elba courthouse. (picture) - The home of Steve and Karen Petty in the Zion Chapel community was totally destroyed by fire on Jan. 8. Town of New Brockton plans Martin Luther King celebration for Jan. 15.

**January 18** - Construction of the new postal facility in Elba gets underway. Elba BOE members review state-of-the-art instruction programs. 12th Judicial Circuit DA's office establishes a website available to the public. DA Mark Fuller calls for the Elba grand jury to convene in special session to hear evidence in the first degree domestic violence case against Jonathan Leland Wilkerson, age 19, of Kinston.

**January 25** - Auditor cautions Elba City Council to watch monthly sales tax numbers closely. Four persons narrowly escaped serious injury when two vehicles collided in the intersection of Coffee County Road 239 and 228 (Crossroads). Elba BOE denied appeal of Elba Economic Development Corporation.

### FEBRUARY

**February 1** - The family of Keith Clark takes civil action against Mark Anderson by filing a petition to perpetuate and obstruct discovery pursuant to Rule 27 Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure. (picture) - Elba citizens study maps of the proposed U.S. Highway 84 project during Jan. 29 meeting. Coffee County's voting list purged in accordance with state law.

**February 8** - Coffee County BOE recognizes the accomplishments of ZC Coach Randy Grant. ZC Senior Josh McHaffey and New Brockton teacher Ann Allison. Single car accident on County Rd. 415 takes the life of Costellus Dantony Lawrence, age 22, and seriously injures Jason Carter Mitchell, age 10, both of Elba. Elba Police Dept. arrests a Troy man and woman on sex related charges. Special grand jury indicts Jonathan Leland Wilkerson of Kinston on charges of first-degree domestic violence.

**February 15** - Elba sales tax revenues above projections for first quarter of current fiscal year. Commission supplements life insurance. (picture) - Elba City Council passes health care proclamation.

**February 22** - Elba utility users facing increase in electric and water rates before summer arrives. (picture) - The new "speculative building" located in Elba's Industrial Park nears completion. Long-time county BOE member Joyce Barksdale dies. (picture) - Counterfeit \$10 and \$20 bills show up in area.

**March 8** - (picture) - Lindsey Gamble applies syrup to her pancake. (picture) - Elba General Hospital honors the late Brad Wilson with free planning services. Coffee County School System. (picture) - Elba Council approves the removal of the crooked bridge for the proposed levee project.

**March 15** - "Gone with the Wind" visits Elba as William Sigmund works on a tractor-trailer owned by the Rhet Butler Trucking Company which depicts scenes from the classic movie. Commission accepts life insurance proposal from National Security. Strong storm sweeps through the Elba area causing some damage. Elba Water and Electric Board adopts a water rate increase effective April 1st. County BOE asks Gene Barksdale to serve the remainder of his late wife's term on the board.

**March 22** - DA Mark Fuller speaks to the Elba Lions Club about the implementation of the S.A.V.E. program in area schools. Docket call for the April term of criminal court. Elba division. (picture) - Elba BOE approves a water rate increase effective April 1st. County BOE asks Gene Barksdale to serve the remainder of his late wife's term on the board.

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**April 5** - (picture) - Elba BOE approves a water rate increase effective April 1st. County BOE asks Gene Barksdale to serve the remainder of his late wife's term on the board.

**April 12** - Elba Fire Dept. upgrades equipment and approves the addition of Garps Wise and Gese Sowell Jr. to the department. Gene Barksdale joins the County BOE filling the vacancy of his late wife.

**April 19** - Jonathan Leland Wilkerson, age 19, denied Youthful Offender status on first-degree domestic violence charges. (picture) - Minor wreck occurs at the intersection of AL Hwy. 87N and AL Hwy. 203. (picture) - Ribbon cutting held at Customized Cleaners for new owners Dykes and Kathy Weeks.

**April 26** - (picture) - Three car collision occurs at the intersection of AL Hwy. 203, Martin Luther King Dr. and Taylor Mill Rd. City of Elba awarded \$10,000 federal business development grant. Patrick Norris joins 12th Judicial Circuit DA's office as investigator. \$6.1 million federal loan and grant approved for Coffee County Water Authority project.

**May 3** - Gov. Siegelman visits Elba and delivers news of funding for the levee projects in Elba and Geneva. Elba police officers and dispatchers voluntarily submit to drug testing. Circuit Court dismisses Revenue

Commissioner's petition for declaratory judgment in Angela Byrd case.

**May 10** - Dorsey auction date set for June 1st. (picture) - Elba General Hospital honors the late Brad Wilson with free planning services. Coffee County School System. (picture) - Elba Council approves the removal of the crooked bridge for the proposed levee project.

**May 17** - (picture) - Ribbon cutting ceremony held at the newly opened Family Finders Regional Office in Elba. DA Mark Fuller presented the Miriam Shigmon Award. Elba Council stirred by request from retiring officer J. C. Cook.

**May 24** - Coffee County Sheriff's Dept. warns citizens about telemarketing scams. (picture) - Coffee County holds the annual Relay for Life event on May 18. Elba seniors ace new graduation exam. 100 percent. Linda Hodge named new Editor of The Elba Clipper. Dorsey Trailers announces commission with concerns of speeding on County Rd. 719.

**May 31** - Rodger Bowden resigns as superintendent of the Coffee County School System. (picture) - A late night house fire at 754 Reynolds Street in Elba leads to the death of John Fredrick. County BOE approves additional sign-ups. Richard Scott McGinnis, age 19, of Elba, was arrested May 31 by the Elba Police Dept. on charges of theft and burglary.

**JUNE** - (picture) - Elba BOE approves a water rate increase effective April 1st. County BOE asks Gene Barksdale to serve the remainder of his late wife's term on the board.

**June 7** - Elba BOE approves a water rate increase effective April 1st. County BOE asks Gene Barksdale to serve the remainder of his late wife's term on the board.

**June 14** - (picture) - A tractor-trailer driven by Samuel Steven Taylor of Great Falls S.C. leaves roadway and strikes a fence on Hwy. 84 West. New Brockton Council adopts cost saving plan. (picture) - Elba Fly-in considered a success despite heavy rainfall during morning hours.

**June 21** - Elba BOE names Daniel Stephens as chairman of the board. (picture) - The Elba Fire Dept. contains a mobile home fire on Jones Street to heat and smoke damage. City of Elba presents land deed to the Coffee County Habitat for Humanity. (picture) - Emergency personnel respond to a one-vehicle wreck on County Rd. 239. Levi Brown attaining college credit at age 14 through dual enrollment.

**June 28** - (picture) - Fire destroys the Coffee County home of Stan and Carol Windham. Troy King begins political campaign for the office of Secretary of State in Elba. Elba General Hospital and Nursing Home celebrates expansion and renovations. Elba Council grants tax abatements to new Dorsey Trailers.

**JULY** - (picture) - The Dorsey Trailer Company announces the purchase of old Dorsey Trailers. Inc. ABC agents join the Elba Police Dept. in a major drug bust which led to the arrest of Robin

Robert A. Stinson of Elba. (picture) - Construction of the new Elba Post Office continues as the site is poured around the factory.

**July 12** - Coffee County BOE approves the hiring of Dr. Linda Ingram for the position of superintendent. Hydrogeologist Marlon Cook tours the Dorsey Trailer plant. Elba Council approves the removal of the crooked bridge for the proposed levee project.

**July 19** - Elba Fire Dept. has 10 firefighters complete a Firemanship I course. Dr. Linda Ingram accepts the position as superintendent of the Coffee County School System. (picture) - Ronald McKinnon holds his annual football camp. (picture) - New welcome signs unveiled for the Town of New Brockton.

**July 26** - Dorsey gets \$2 million ADCA loan approval. (picture) - Elba Marching Tiger Band holds annual band camp. S.A.V.E. program designed to prevent school violence. County resident Randy Addison addresses commission with concerns of speeding on County Rd. 719.

**AUGUST** - (picture) - Kinston Band Boosters concerned about future of the band program. (picture) - The Southeast Alabama Community Band presents its third concert of the season. (picture) - City of Elba receives an \$8,000 check from the Southeast Alabama Gas District. (picture) - Elba Police Dept. announces new officers effective August 1st.

**August 9** - Dorsey Trailer Company high nationwide deal as meeting in Elba. (picture) - Tractor-trailer overturns while turning off AL Hwy. 141 onto U.S. Hwy. 84 near the Curtis Community. Gov. Siegelman unveils road two of the Tel. Mod. Wanted campaign.

**August 16** - (picture) - Elba BOE approves a water rate increase effective April 1st. County BOE asks Gene Barksdale to serve the remainder of his late wife's term on the board.

**August 23** - (picture) - The first trailer shipped from Dorsey Trailers since the company reopened. Elba Police and ABC agents seize about 50 marijuana plants. Elba Tigers and Zion Chapel Rebels prepare for first-year meeting. Dennis Wooten hired as new manager of the Elba MarketPlace.

**August 30** - Local law enforcement makes two arrests from illegal drug operation and confiscated over 60 marijuana plants. Coffee County Solid Waste Dept. takes residents to small claims court for lack of payment. Elba firemen collect \$1,613.08 for MDA. D.A.R.E. program receives new vehicle through joint effort.

**SEPTEMBER** - (picture) - Coffee County Farmers are hard at work gathering the peanut crop. Elba BOE approves \$6 million budget for FY2001-2002. County BOE approves \$12.4 million budget for FY2001-2002. Coffee County launches 2002 United Way campaign. Commissioner Bernest Brooks elected to Association of County Commissioners of Alabama board.

**September 13** - Elba Police Chief R.W. "Ronnie" Whitworth submits letter of resignation;

(picture) - An early morning head-on collision on Coffee County Rd. 339 sends two men to the hospital with injuries. Commission votes to change the county's depository to CB&T Bank of Enterprise. New Brockton Council presents a proclamation to Rayfield Reynolds of Elba.

**September 20** - Elba School plan to borrow funds to finish the fiscal year. (picture) - The Elba Ministerial Association leads a community prayer service in the courthouse yard as Americans deal with the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. The second class of the Coffee County Youth Leadership program presented.

**September 27** - Elba Police Chief R.W. "Ronnie" Whitworth withdraws his resignation. (picture) - Dorsey Trailers shows its community support by sponsoring Elba's largest "Bottle-Competition" on an additional raise for all Sheriff's department employees. Melissa Street, the daughter of Dorsey CEO Chris Street, visits Elba and provides her personal details of the Sept. 11 terrorist attack in New York.

**OCTOBER** - (picture) - Brockton Commissioner Paul Smith, the town council, as part of the annual Farm City Week activities, local students visit the Farm City Week Petting Zoo. (picture) - Elba BOE approves a water rate increase effective April 1st. County BOE asks Gene Barksdale to serve the remainder of his late wife's term on the board.

**October 4** - (picture) - Brockton Commissioner Paul Smith, the town council, as part of the annual Farm City Week activities, local students visit the Farm City Week Petting Zoo. (picture) - Elba BOE approves a water rate increase effective April 1st. County BOE asks Gene Barksdale to serve the remainder of his late wife's term on the board.

**October 11** - (picture) - A minor traffic accident with no injuries occurs at the intersection of Hickman Ave. and AL 203 Bypass in Elba. Elba City Clerk Donna Morrow submits her letter of resignation. County BOE recognizes the accomplishments of several students who participated in the Duke University Talent Identification Program. Commission hears that no bridges are posted on Coffee County at this time. Large crowd attends reception for State Representative Terry Spicer.

**October 18** - (picture) - The kindergarten class at New Brockton Elementary School creates an American flag out of paper chains. Elba animal control officer George Haystack commits himself to finding a home for the animals and improving the facilities. The Coffee County Elba Division Grand Jury hands down 50 indictments.

**October 25** - Commission amends budget for county extension service to allow the continued employment of a part-time support staff member. (picture) - Elba High School students prepare for Homecoming 2001. Wayne Grantham selected as the new clerk for Elba. Authors Robert Inman and Ann Vaughan Richards plan book reading at the Elba Public Library. Former Elba resident David Lee Barnes, found guilty of first-degree murder in Virginia.

**NOVEMBER** - (picture) - Elba Chamber of Commerce sponsors Pumpkins on the Square. Jail restoration project put on hold as chamber continues to look for additional funding. November brings new driver license fees. (picture) - Elba's mascot Elbie plays with the children during the Thursday night tailgate party before Homecoming. (picture) - Elba Mayor James Grimes pro-

claims the month of November as National Hospice Month in Elba.

**November 8** - Countyman Terry Spicer secures \$150,000 in initial funding for Wiregrass Regional Water Reservoir. (picture) - Fall Fling Fly-in sees over 50 planes visit the Carl Folsom Airport in Elba. County BOE selects Charles Walker as chairman and Danny Lemmon as vice chairman of the board. New Brockton council approves Phase I of the old Fred Store location project. (picture) - Elba Mayor James Grimes proclaims Nov. 13 as Retired Teachers Day in Elba.

**November 15** - (picture) - Single vehicle accident on U.S. Hwy. 84 West proves fatal for James Earl Teague, age 57, of Enterprise. Elba Police arrest Michael Booth, age 45, of Elba on drug charges following a routine traffic stop. Jonathan Leland Wilkerson of Kinston pleads guilty to domestic violence, first degree in the Coffee County Circuit Court. Elba Division and received 30 years sentence. County Commission votes to enter negotiations with Waste Corporation of America, Inc. for sale of county landfill. (picture) - Jack Windham signs the first deed for property needed for widening of Highway 84.

**November 22** - A Wednesday Nov. 14 traffic accident sends three people to the hospital when a pickup car, collides with a 1986 truck at the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 84 and Ala. Hwy. 203. New Brockton Police arrest Christopher Dentinas, Silas of New Brockton, in connection with some motor vehicle breakdowns.

**November 29** - Commission hears several remarks of opposition concerning the possible sale of the landfill. (picture) - Elba BOE approves a water rate increase effective April 1st. County BOE asks Gene Barksdale to serve the remainder of his late wife's term on the board.

**DECEMBER** - (picture) - Santa visits New Brockton for the town's first-ever Christmas parade. Waste Corporation of America, Inc. asks one-step closer to possible purchase of county landfill. Several citizens voice opposition to New Brockton annexation and council votes to rescind the annexation resolution. (picture) - New Brockton receives ADECA grant for two walking trails.

**December 13** - Gov. Siegelman visits Elba for official Dorsey opening announcement. Two meetings during different meetings prevent the sale of the county landfill to Waste Corporation of America, Inc. (picture) - The Forest Lake Subdivision in Elba played host to "Christmas in the Forest" as sightseers were given buggy rides through the area.

**December 20** - The annual Christmas edition of the paper featured the Greg Bailey Family as the 2001 Elba Christmas Family.

**December 27** - A look back at the year that was 2001.





## EDITORIAL

## BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

As a child growing up in South Alabama, the proper greeting for the season was simply, "Merry Christmas." Then the more sensitive in the community added happy Hanukkah because of the Jewish residents of our small town. Now it is not unusual to get mail, e-mail, etc. ending with the multiple greeting of, Merry Christmas, happy Hanukkah and a blessed Ramadan! This last is added in recognition of the growing presence of Muslims in America and throughout the world. While some still frown on this expanded greeting, we are not in that group, as none of this posing respect for another religion is considered a threat to our Christian ideals and beliefs. In fact the more we learn about other religions or even read challenges to the traditional Christian teachings, the stronger our personal convictions become.

There was another incident last week of Afghanistan al Qaeda POW's rioting, killing guards and escaping. Basic military training in the U.S. (plus common sense) tells us to take the guns, grenades, etc. away from captured enemy soldiers. Yet these so-called seasoned fighters continue to screw up and get themselves and/or their fellow "good guys" killed in the process.

If there is not enough concern over the Afghanistan problems and the Palestinian/Israeli killings, then enter your attention on the riots and looting in Argentina. It is possible to understand the Argentine citizens' anguish with their government because the economy really was in shambles. Now their problems are worse because the people are looting and destroying the few businesses which were surviving. These survivors were not the root of the country's problems but were a ray of hope for anyone to survive. Now the problems are compounded because the government may fall completely, and for sure the monetary system will falter and have to be devalued when the country defaults on outstanding loans. This devaluation will hurt the poor and middle class who might have had a few coins hidden under the mattress. That saved coin that once would have bought a loaf of bread, will soon only buy a half loaf - if and when it is available. It is all real dumb, but then mob rule is always real dumb and short sighted. It brings out the absolute worst in human beings.

The school funding crisis is apparently over with the special session of the Alabama legislature adding a new tax to our telephone bills. There will be a lot of name calling in the coming months as the politicians complain that "big business" is getting a free ride, buying legislative votes, etc. Personally we thought still think there is an undue load on individuals and the large corporations are not paying their fair share in most categories, including property taxes. However, it is a matter of them having the most effective lobbying presence in Montgomery. These Alabama lawmakers are average civilized human beings (they really are) who listen to, and react to, the loudest squeaking, most persistent whet.

Elba native Major Todd English was in the Pentagon on 9/11. I survived. In fact he was two stories underground in an adjoining section of the massive building, and had to be told to evacuate because of the plane crashing into the facility. We are sure all that sounded good to his parents here in Elba, but that morning when all those folks were dying, they had no more information than the rest of us. Bull and false English have a lot to be thankful for for their children, but the Christmas they should be and are a doubly thankful that their son was spared on that fateful September morning.

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Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$17 per year  
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Outside Alabama - \$21 per year - 6 months - \$11

## From Congressman Terry Everett...It all comes back to prayer

A little over a generation ago, when many of our public schools actually resembled places of learning instead of high security facilities with metal detectors, guards, and fencing, it was not uncommon for students to encounter a prayer or acknowledgment of God in their school activities. Time was when public teachers and administrators were not fearful of referencing God, and there was seldom a need for police patrols of school grounds and locker sweeps for weapons.

Is our society better now because of the Supreme Court mandated restrictions on religious activity on public school grounds? Parents can send off their children to school secure in the knowledge that their impressionable little ones will not have to encounter expressions of reverence to God. Never mind the vast sea of unemphatic school violence, generated by a lack of moral example, which sear our land.

To put it mildly, America is losing. Fathers would be shocked at the extreme interpretation of their intent in framing the Constitution over 200 years ago. They were, for the most part, men of God building a new nation whose humble beginnings.

## NOTICE

Due to the New Year's holiday, The Elba Clipper will have special deadlines for the Thursday, Jan. 3, edition of the paper.

The deadline for all news and advertising will be Noon on Friday, Dec. 28.

## Area Happenings

**EXTENSION OFFICE HOURS.** The Coffee County Extension Office in New Brockton is currently offering its service of the Christmas and New Year's Day holiday. The office will reopen at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 3.

**CITY OF ELBA HOLIDAY SCHEDULE.** The City of Elba offices will be closed Tuesday, Jan. 1, in observance of the New Year's Day holiday. There will be standby crews for any emergency with water, electric, sewer or street. To report any emergency, call the Elba Police Department at 897-2555. The garbage schedule will be as follows: Monday - no change; Tuesday - moved to Wednesday; Wednesday - moved to Thursday; Thursday - moved to Friday.

**NEW YEAR'S CLOSING.** The New Brockton Town Hall will be closed Dec. 31 and Jan. 1 for the New Year's Day holiday. Garbage pickup will be on Tuesday, Jan. 1.

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## BULLETIN BOARD

• **SOCIAL SECURITY REP.** Courthouse 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call FREE 1-800-772-1213  
• **ROTCARY CLUB.** Tuesday 6:00 Noon-First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall  
• **ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN.** Tues. 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall  
• **ELBA CITY COUNCIL.** 2nd & 4th Monday 6:00 p.m. City Hall  
• **WATER & ELECTRIC.** Tuesday following 2nd Monday 6 p.m. - City Hall  
• **GRIFE SUPPORT GROUP.** Every Monday 6:30 p.m. Elba United Methodist Church enter on side on W. Davis St. (Marque Garrett Classroom)  
• **COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION.** 2nd & 4th Monday Community Room in Farm Center Complex 9 New Brockton  
• **LIONS CLUB.** 2nd & 4th Tues. 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizen Center  
• **ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD.** 1st Thurs. 8:30 p.m. - Sage Office  
• **AMERICAN LEGION.** 1st Thurs. 9:00 p.m. Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.  
• **MASONIC LODGE 179.** 1st & 3rd Monday of each month 7 p.m.  
• **MAD ROOSTERS.** 1st Mon. 7 p.m. Band Room @ Elba High School  
• **VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER.** Mon-Fri. 8:12 noon & 12:30-4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5858  
• **COFFEE COUNTY COON HUNTERS ASSN.** 3rd Sat. 3 p.m. Club House  
• **COFFEE REPUBLICAN WOMEN.** 3rd Wed. Noon. Colony Inn, Enterprise  
• **AIRPORT AUTHORITY.** 1st Tuesday at noon. City Hall Conference Room  
• **AARP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month  
• **CIVIL AIR PATROL.** Every Monday 7 p.m. - Elba Airport-Driscoll hangar  
• **ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB.** hangar  
• **ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB.** Mondays - 6:30 p.m. - Elba Cafeteria

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attacks on our nation. Americans are returning to their religious roots and finding that it can be beneficial to their mental health as they seek healing. As America's children reach out for guidance in these difficult days, what better time to return the right to pray in America's classrooms? For this reason, I have joined with 73 other original cosponsors in introducing the School Prayer Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This proposed constitutional amendment would permit, but not mandate, school prayer and other religious expression on public property. To be ratified, it would require the two-thirds approval of the US House and Senate and the support of three-quarters of the States.

Americans deserve the right to pray and to recognize their religious beliefs, heritage and traditions on public grounds, including our schools. It is a shame that society cannot see the evidence all around us that to do otherwise is morally self-destructive.

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## Obituaries

## EDITH VAUGHAN

Mrs. Edith Vaughan, age 78, a resident of Montgomery for 58 years, died Dec. 12, 2001.

Funeral services were held Dec. 14, 2001 from the Chapel of Brooks-Cargile Funeral Home with Dr. Earl Hall officiating. Graveside services followed at Evergreen Cemetery in Elba.

Survivors include her husband, Rene E. Vaughan Sr., Montgomery; her children, Marcia (Charles) Jones, Montgomery, Rena (Lionie) Dispenette, Wetumpka, Ala.; Emilee (Willetta) Vaughan, Montgomery; her grandchildren, Lani Munoz, Emily (Matthew) Jones, J.K. Jones, Matthew Vaughan and Mitchell Vaughan; three great-grandchildren, Jacob Munoz, Ana Munoz and Grace Jones; four sisters, Wayne Barbours, Jane Hudson, Ann Davis and Betty Hudson; and one grandson-in-law, Johnathon Munoz.

**GLADIE MAE HENDERSON**  
Mrs. Gladie Mae Henderson, age 93, died Dec. 16, 2001.

Funeral services were held Dec. 19, 2001 at St. Stephens A.M.E. Church in Opp, Ala. with Rev. Diana S. Hentley officiating. Burial followed at Hardin Street Cemetery in Opp with Coleman Funeral Home directing.

Mrs. Henderson was preceded in death by her parents, Lillie and Henry Henderson; and her son, Jerome White.

Survivors include one daughter, Doris Wade, Opp; one daughter-in-law, Alice F. White, Opp; three grandsons, Melvin Wade, Apple Valley, Calif.; Tyrone White, Opp; Frederick White, Dover, Ala.; 11 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren.

## JAMES COLEY WAMBLES

Mr. James Coley Wambles, age 80, of 331 County Road 208, Jack, Ala., died Dec. 20, 2001 at the Elba Nursing Home.

Funeral services were held at Zion Chapel Baptist Church on Dec. 23, 2001 with Rev. Larry Doster and Rev. Jimmy Maddox officiating. Burial followed at Zion Chapel Cemetery in Elba.

Mr. Wambles was preceded in death by his mother, Sara Belle Hataway; father, John Henry Wambles; two sisters and seven brothers. Survivors include his wife, Clara Wambles; two daughters, Patsy Lunsford, Enterprise; Debra Daughtry, Phenix City, Ala.; one sister, Mary Carpenter, Jack; one brother, Roy Wambles, Phenix City, Ala.; three granddaughters, Vickie Daughtry, Phenix City, Ala.; Lori Spicer, New Brockton; Donna Ammons, Havelock, N.C.; two grandsons, Darin Lunsford, Montgomery; Dalton Daughtry, Phenix City, Ala.; two great-grandsons, Justin Lunsford, Montgomery.

**11 traffic deaths predicted for New Year's holiday**

Alabama state troopers are asking holiday travelers to drive with caution, using safety belts and child restraints, and obeying speed limits and all other traffic laws. They also especially urge motorists to abstain from drinking and driving during the holidays.

"I have worked hard to give Alabama the toughest drunk driving laws in the nation," said Governor Don Siegelman. "As attorney general, I pushed legislation which lowered the legal blood alcohol level from .10 percent to .08, and doubled the fines for DUI. As governor we passed legislation imposing new penalties against people who drink drive with children in the car."

All available troopers will be on patrol during peak holiday travel times to enforce traffic laws and assist motorists, according to James H. Alexander, director of the Alabama Department of Public Safety.

## NOTICE

Due to the New Year's holiday, The Elba Clipper will have special deadlines for the Thursday, Jan. 3, edition of the paper. The deadline for all news and advertising will be Noon on Friday, Dec. 28.

Thomas Spicer, New Brockton; one great-granddaughter, Abbey Ammons, Havelock, N.C.

## LEWIS PAUL SMART

Lewis Paul Smart, age 74, of Elba, Ala., died Dec. 19, 2001 at UAB Hospital in Birmingham. Funeral services were held Dec. 22, 2001 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Stevens Nolin officiating. Burial followed at Evergreen Cemetery in Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife, Edna Smart, Elba; one son and daughter-in-law, Larry and Sandra Smart, Jacksonville, Ala.; one granddaughter, Misty Smart, Jacksonville, Ala.; three sisters, Vonelle Sanders, Lois Edgar and Lucille Hudson, all of Elba.

## ROY JACKSON

Roy (Mr. Bob) Jackson, age 92, died Dec. 9, 2001.

Funeral services were held Dec. 15, 2001 at Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ on Opp, Ala. with Rev. W.H. Boss officiating. Burial followed at Hardin Street Cemetery in Opp with Coleman Funeral Home directing.

Mr. Jackson was preceded in death by his parents, Jeff and Leola Jackson. Survivors include two brothers, Alfred Jackson, Coco, Fla.; H.B. Jackson, Troy, Ala.; one sister, Henry Henderson, and her son, Henry Henderson, Montgomery, Ala.; two sons, Nathaniel Jackson, Harrison, Del.; Freddy Jackson, New Haven, Conn.; three daughters, Marjorie Thompson, Hunter.

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Newport News, Va., Katie Lane, Samson, Ala.; Betty Mullins, Spring Lake, N.C.; one daughter-in-law, Wilma Rowell (Gertrude), Birmingham, Ala.; 18 grandchildren, 28 great-grandchildren and 3 great-great-grandchildren.

## MR. ROBERT HOLLIS KELLEY

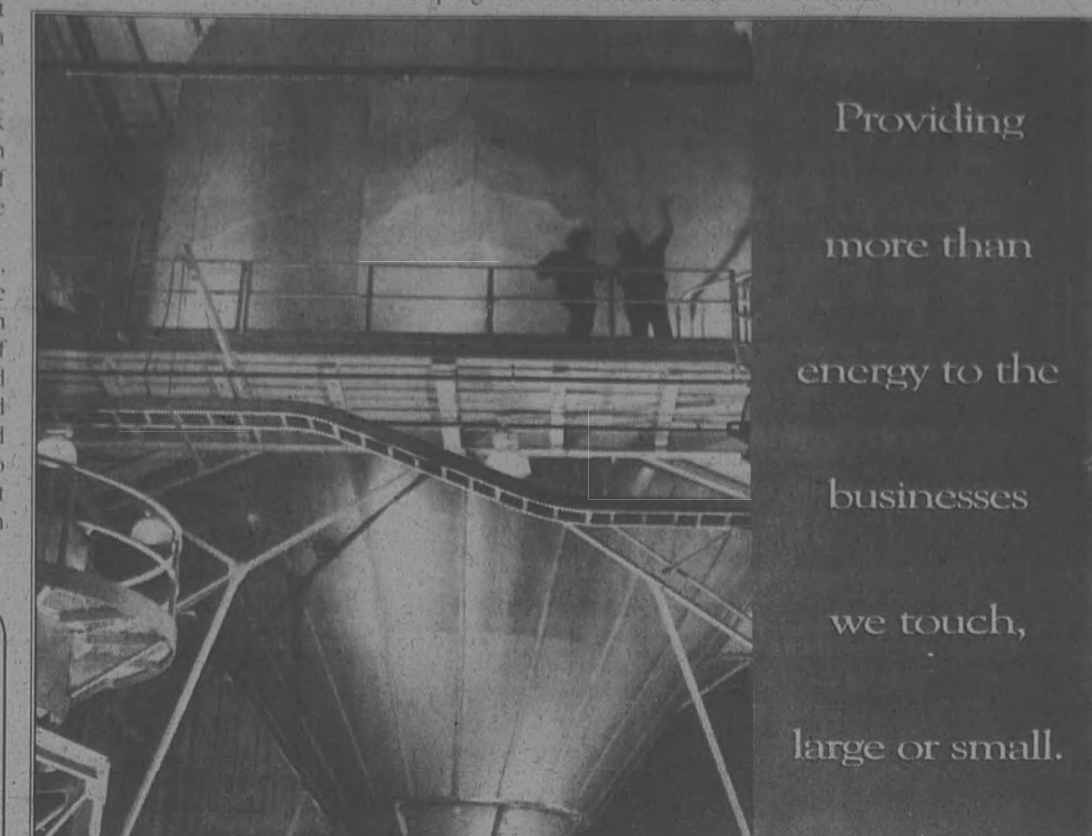
Mr. Robert Hollis Kelley, age 77, of 1922 Hickman Avenue, Elba, AL, died Saturday at his home following a short illness. Funeral services were held at Westside Baptist Church on Monday morning, 10:00 a.m., December 24, 2001 with Dr. Tony Dye and Reverend Mack King officiating. Burial was in Hillcrest Memorial Gardens of Elba with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife, Doris Kelley of Elba; one daughter and son-in-law, Jean and Dennis Conger, of Niceville, FL; two sons and daughters-in-law, Jerry and Teri Kelly, both of Elba; two brothers, Everett and Dwight Kelley, both of Elba; seven grandchildren.

Pre-need funeral planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home. For details Call 897-2225



The spirit of giving is alive and well at Covington Electric Cooperative. Above, CEC employees Marcus Wilks, Lindsey Smith, Amy Hanson and Barry Bonds stand beside the unique Christmas tree creatively decorated with a utility theme at the Enterprise office. CEC employees, with help from one consumer, helped purchase Christmas gifts for 10 needy children in Coffee County this year. CEC is proud to be involved with worthwhile programs that benefit children in our area.



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<b>MAGNAVOX</b> 21 in. screen, picture in picture. Was \$1296 <b>\$938</b>	<b>MATTRESS SALE</b> Twin.....Ea. Pc. \$29.95 Full.....Ea. Pc. \$34.95 Queen.....Ea. Pc. \$39.95 King.....Ea. Pc. \$44.95 Sole Sale Only	<b>WHIRLPOOL WASHER</b> Heavy Duty, Scaled Water Temp. & Load Size. Compare \$290 BAL. <b>\$159.95</b>	<b>FAMOUS BRAND 13.0 CU. FT. NO FROST REFRIGERATOR</b> Compare \$350 BAL. <b>\$238</b>
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# SCHOOLS



## Tiger Tales

Editor:  
Katie Grimes

### EES Faculty Spotlight

This week's faculty spotlight is focused on Kim Lowery.

Mrs. Lowery teaches first grade and has been teaching at EES for nine years.

Mrs. Lowery graduated from Elba High School. She furthered her education at Troy State University where she got her Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in early childhood education.

Mrs. Lowery is married to David Lowery and has two sons, Andrew and Trey.

When asked who or what inspired her to become a teacher, she said that she had wanted a profession in which she could help others and be a



Kim Lowery

good role model. If Mrs. Lowery could no longer teach, she would be an owner of a unique gift shop.

### Junior Beta Club sponsors foster child

by Kimberly Farris

On Tuesday afternoon, December 4, the Elba High School Junior Beta Club members made a trip to one of the local stores to shop for gifts for a two-year-old foster child.

These students participated in the "Adopt a Foster Child for Christmas" program, which is sponsored by the Coffee County Department of Human Resources.

The Beta Club members pur-

chased clothing, games, books, and toys for the toddler that they have enthusiastically befriended.

Students who helped club sponsor Karen Davis in this generous act include club president Bradley Bane, secretary Dustin Rhoades, Katie Cash, Chase Boutwell, Josh Hudson, Whitney Bailey, Elizabeth Weeks, Ashley Key, Anna Petty, Casey Medlock, Christina Bryant and Melanie Mularz.

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**DRIED  
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39¢  
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Limit 6 Please**

### EHS students attend Dorsey's reopening ceremony

by Kimberly Farris

A group of students from both Elba High and Elba Elementary School attended the reopening of the Dorsey Trailer Company.

A specially selected group of Elba High School band members were chosen to perform at the ceremony. Before the start of their performance, Representative Terry Spicer and Senator Jimmy Holley addressed the band. They reassured the students that they would do everything they could to keep the schools from suffering from privation and wished the group a very merry Christmas. The band then performed a selection of patriotic songs.

Governor Siegleman, Senator Holley, Representative Spicer, Chriss Street and several other imminent people spoke at the ceremony. Chris Street, CEO of Dorsey Trailer Company, presented both Governor Siegleman and McArthur State Technical College new trailers.



### Mitchell selected Teacher of the Year

by Gavin Mauldin

The Elba Elementary School faculty has selected Mrs. Pam Mitchell as the 2001-2002 Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Mitchell is a second grade teacher at the elementary school. She has been teaching at EES for seven years and is presently in the middle of her eighth year. She was elected Teacher of the Year by the elementary school faculty and staff.

Mrs. Mitchell quoted teaching as having always been "a dream of mine and a calling in my life."

Principal Mickey McCollough stated, "Mrs.

### EHS chorus gives Christmas performance

by Miranda Russell

On December 11, 2001, the Elba High School chorus performed their annual Christmas concert for the student body.

The chorus sang many Christmas carols, including "Silent Night," "Deck the Halls," and "The First Noel." At the conclusion of the chorus's

performance, Ms. Stephanie Levens beautifully sang patriotic songs such as "America the Beautiful" and "ended with 'Wind Beneath My Wings.'"

After Ms. Levens' moving performance, the chorus took the stage once more to conclude with "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

All performances were very impressive and the students enjoyed the program very much.

Salute!!

### TSU awarded contract to administer insurance exams

Beginning Jan. 1, Troy State University will begin a five-year term as the official administrator for the State Insurance Agents Licensing Examination, according to Dr. Carol Jordan, Emmett-Scholar in Risk Management and Insurance.

Dr. Jordan said TSU was awarded the contract by the State Department of Insurance. "This is a major step forward for the Sorrell College of Business," Dr. Jordan said. "This will give Troy State University and the Risk Management and Insurance Program increased visibility in the profession and demonstrate our willingness to provide needed services to the insurance industry."

Dr. Jordan explained that after Jan. 1, any qualified person seeking to become a licensed agent in Alabama must come to TSU to take the Exam. She added that TSU has made major changes in the testing process.

"Dr. Charles Williams, Associate Dean of the Sorrell College of Business and an information technology professor, has overseen putting the examinations on computer," she said. "He has established an efficient registration, examination and results process. Qualified applicants may register for the exam 24 hours before they wish to take it and

### EHS Faculty Spotlight

by Charly Barlow

This week's faculty spotlight focuses on Sheila Johnson.

Mrs. Johnson currently teaches 9th grade Algebra I, 10th grade geometry, and 12th grade trigonometry.

Mrs. Johnson attended Rehoboth High School, Wallace Junior College in Dothan, and Troy State University in Dothan. She has earned degrees in both math

and music, and she credits her high school math teacher with inspiring her to become a teacher.

Mrs. Johnson formerly taught for eight years at Dothan High School, and she has since spent four years at Elba High School. Mrs. Johnson's family consists of her husband Van and nine cats.

She is an accomplished pianist, and her hobbies include playing the piano and reading.



Pam Mitchell

### Co-Op Spotlight

by Hunter Branch



Ashley Harrelson

The student in this week's Co-op Spotlight is Ashley Harrelson.

Ashley is the 17-year-old daughter of Lisa and Greg Harrelson. She is employed at Medical Arts Pharmacy where she works as a cashier, files and answers the phone.

After high school she plans to attend Troy State University and major in social work and rehabilitation.

Congratulations to Ashley Harrelson for being this week's Co-op Spotlight.

## Looking Back at 2001



**Lordy, Lordy  
Guess Who is  
"40"**

Jauan, Tierney,  
Kira & Daddy



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Tuesday, Jan. 1st,  
ONLY  
in observance of  
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# SPORTS

Views from....

## THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

We didn't put up anywhere near as many lights as we have in the past, but I assured our girls that even though they were a year older and it would not be as easy to spot our house from the sky, that Santa would probably still stop by and leave a few gifts. As the girls get older the gifts get fewer and the cost of the gifts gets higher. However, it is still a fun time of the year and a time to give thanks for our many, many blessings. Merry Christmas!

### PASSING ALONG SOME NOTES...

\*\*\* The Elba Tigers and Lady Tigers both claimed two wins last week to bring home the championship trophies from the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament. The Tigers struggled before getting past Kinston in their opener, then pulled away late from Zion Chapel in the title match to up their record to 7-1 on the young season. John Mitchell scored 25 points in both games to lead Elba to the championship, while the Tigers also began to show an ability to hit from behind the arc. The Tigers may not be as good as some of their fans think and their record might indicate, but they should get better and better as the season rolls along and could be a contender by the end of the year. The Lady Tigers made it look easy with wins over Kinston and Zion Chapel to claim their second straight tournament title. Elba's girls could have piled up some big numbers against its two opponents, but let the reserves mop up both wins in the fourth quarter and as a result the final scores were much closer than the game. The Lady Tigers have very good players, and if they even put a few starters back that were on last year's team that made it to the sub-region finals, one has to believe that the best is yet to come. With the Tigers and Lady Tigers both winning big, Elba basketball fans should keep up with the schedule and come out to support these two fine clubs.

\*\*\* Zion Chapel's Rebels and Lady Rebels both entered last week's Christmas tournament without a win, but both gave their fans plenty to cheer about as they claimed opening round wins and made it to the tournament finals. It was my first chance to see Zion Chapel in action, and I was pleasantly surprised with the intensity and heart shown by the players on both teams. Neither team is filled with stars. However, both gave it all they had for four quarters and didn't lose in the finals due to lack of effort. Forget the records, the basketball fans up at Zion Chapel have two teams they can be proud of.

\*\*\* Kinston claimed consolation honors in both the boys and girls divisions, and did nothing to change my mind that the Bulldogs are a very talented 1A team and that the Lady Bulldogs are much better than their record might indicate, and are a team to keep an eye on. The Bulldogs went stone cold late from the floor and the free-throw line in a hard fought loss to Elba, then woke up after a lack-luster first half to down Arton for third place honors. Believe me, Kinston has a team filled with very good players, and if they even put it all together, watch out. The Lady Bulldogs defeated Arton in the consolation game to get their first win of the season, and it was great to see the girls finally get a win. Kinston's girls have played hard all season long and have improved by leaps and bounds, and they deserved to celebrate a win. Things are looking up down in Kinston.

\*\*\* Area basketball fans will get the chance to see all the high school action they could ever want to see this week, as holiday tournaments will be held in both Red Level and Dothan. The Red Level event will feature eight boys teams and eight girls teams, and will include eight games a day for three straight days. The top teams should be T.R. Miller, Georgiana and Red Level in the boys bracket, while over in the girls division the teams to watch appear to be Andalusia, Pleasant Home and T.R. Miller. The 19th annual Dothan Progress/Dothan Eagle classic will be held at the Dothan Civic Center and this year there should be good games on almost every day of the event. The Abbeville-Randolph-Clay game should highlight the first day's action, while on the second day Pleasant Home and Goshen will tangle. Semifinal matchups could include Randolph-Clay against Andalusia and Pleasant Home against Barbour County, and that would make for a very interesting night of high school hoops. Hey fans, if you like high school basketball, this is your week.

\*\*\* In closing... the bottle throwing incidents at the pro football games recently should make college and high school sit up and take notice. Over the years it seems like whatever happens at the pro level will filter down to college, and then to high schools. Maybe the NFL officials will take a hard stand and prohibit bottles of any kind in the stadiums, and also make the team owners pay for the actions of their fans. That would stop it in its tracks.

## NOTICE

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JANUARY 1, 2002

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FEBRUARY 1, 2002There Will Be A Penalty Fee Plus Interest  
Charged If Not Paid By Due Date !

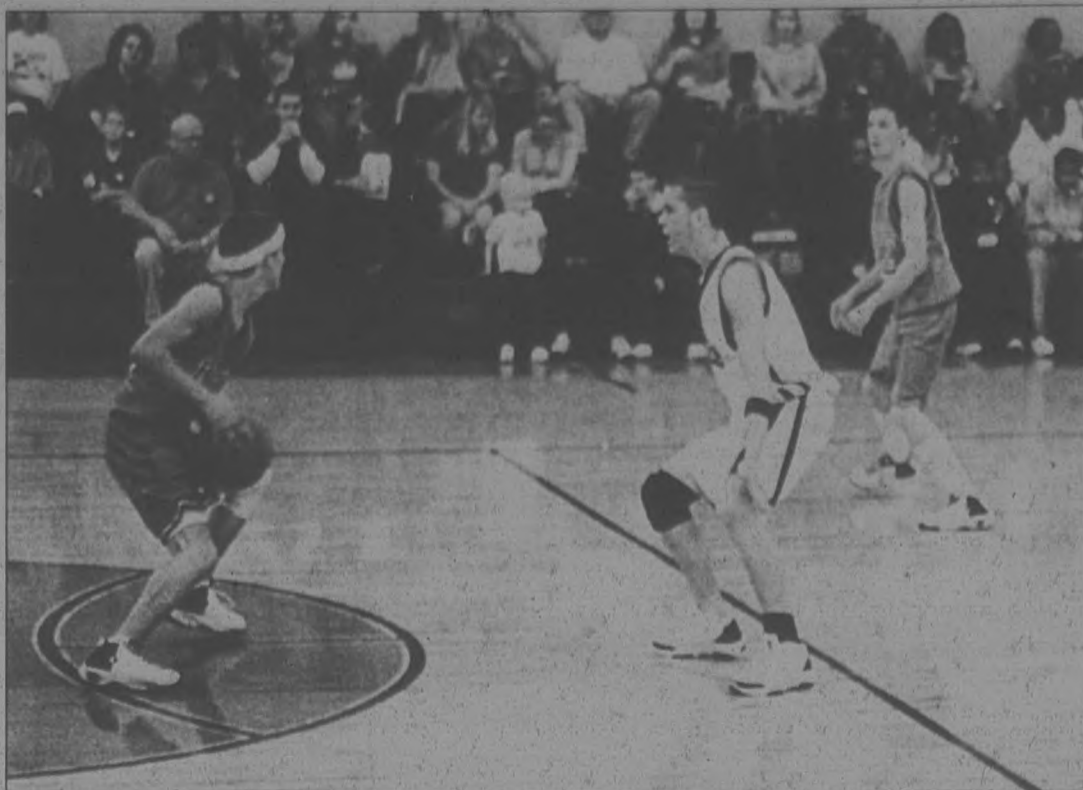
Municipal Ordinances require that all persons engaged in any exhibition, trade, business, vocation, occupation, profession or calling or doing any action specified within the corporate limits/police jurisdiction of THE CITY OF ELBA are subject to a BUSINESS LICENSE.

CITY OF ELBA

WAYNE GRANTHAM  
CITY CLERK

From Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament

## Tigers bring home championship



Elba's Kyle English (in white) stops a Zion Chapel defender near halfcourt in the Tigers' big 66-39 win over the Rebels in the championship game of the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament. The Tigers claimed two wins in the event to up their record to 7-1 on the season.

### OPENING ROUND:

ELBA 58

KINSTON 51

The Elba Tigers outscored the Kinston Bulldogs 11-4 over the final three minutes of the fourth quarter Monday night to post an exciting 58-51 win in opening round action.

Elba jumped out to a quick 1-0 lead behind the inside play of John Mitchell and Marcus Henderson, and appeared headed for an easy win after a basket by Derrick Brooks put the Tigers on top 16-5 with 1:34 left in the first quarter.

The Tigers' lead grew to 22-8 early in the second stanza on a put back by Mitchell. However, Kinston suddenly came to life and behind the three-point shooting of Lee Whigham went on an 8-0 run to close to within 24-18 with 4:47 remaining in the half.

A short jumper by Jimmy Coleman topped the Bulldogs run and put the Tigers ahead 26-18, but Kinston refused to go away and went in at the half trailing only 29-25 after a lack-luster first half to down Arton for third place honors. Believe me, Kinston has a team filled with very good players, and if they even put it all together, watch out. The Lady Bulldogs defeated Arton in the consolation game to get their first win of the season, and it was great to see the girls finally get a win. Kinston's girls have played hard all season long and have improved by leaps and bounds, and they deserved to celebrate a win. Things are looking up down in Kinston.

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Elba rallied to pull even at 38-38 with 49 left in the quarter on a three-pointer by Marcus Henderson, only to see Kinston regain command and regain the lead at 42-39 early in the fourth quarter.

Kyle English sparked a 6-0 Elba run that put the Tigers back on top 45-42 with 5:52 left in the fourth quarter. However, the two county rivals kept swapping baskets and Kinston caught Elba at 47-47 on a three-pointer by Jamie Lunsford with 3:19 remaining in the game.

Elba hit four free-throws during a 25-second span late in the quarter as the Tigers moved back on top 53-47, and although Elba hit only 3 of its final 12 free-throw opportunities, the Bulldogs connected on only 4 of 11 shots from the foul line during the final two minutes, and the Tigers held on to escape with the 58-51 win.

John Mitchell scored 25 points to lead Elba, while Marcus Henderson added 12 and Kyle English scored 13 points to lead Kinston, while Tim Whigham added 11 and Jamie Lunsford tossed in 10.

Elba (58): English 10, Gavin 4, Henderson 12, Brooks 5, Coleman 2, Mitchell 25.

Kinston (51): Whigham 13, Wiggins 2, T. Whigham 11, Anderson 2, Nelson 7, Lunsford 10, Driver 6.

### CONSOLATION GAME:

KINSTON 70

ARITON 49

The Kinston Bulldogs woke up after a long first half nap to crush the Arton Purple Cats 70-

49 to claim consolation honors. The win upped Kinston's record to 6-4, while Arton slipped to 0-4 with the loss.

Neither team could find the basket early in the opening stanza as Arton crept out to a 3-0 lead with 3:35 left in the quarter. A free-throw by Jeremy Driver finally put the Bulldogs on the scoreboard with 3:27 remaining, and Kinston pulled even at 3-3 only seconds later on a lay-up by J.T. Wiggins.

The pace never picked up throughout the quarter. However, Kinston did connect on three of four free-throws late, and then grabbed an 8-5 lead on a short jumper by Shawn Brantley with 4:5 left on the clock.

Arton began to wake up early in the second quarter and moved on top 15-12 with 4:54 left in the half on a basket by T.R. Oliver, but Kinston quickly drew even at 15-15 on a three-pointer by Lee Whigham, and the teams swapped baskets for the remainder of the half as the rivals went in at intermission knotted at 26-26.

Brandon Arnold ended the Kinston drought with 6:47 left in the third quarter, but the Tigers were now in command and moved ahead 40-24 with 5:10 left in the stanza after a baseline jumper by Quinton Gavin.

Billy McClain and Brandon Arnold sparked a 10-2 Rebel rally late in the quarter that helped Zion Chapel cut the Elba lead to 42-36, but the Tigers' Derrick Brooks nailed a long three-pointer at the buzzer to up the Elba lead to 45-30 with one quarter remaining.

A Derrick Brooks lay-up capped a 7-0 Elba run that put the Tigers on top 52-30 early in the fourth quarter, and the Tigers never backed down as they closed the game with a 10-2 run to past the Rebels 66-39.

John Mitchell scored 25 points to lead Elba, while Marcus Henderson added 17. Brandon Arnold scored 12 points to lead Zion Chapel.

Elba (66): English 3, Gavin 4, Williams 2, Wade 2, Henderson 17, Brooks 9, Coleman 4, Mitchell 25.

Z.C. (39): McClain 6, Taylor 7, Simmons 4, Edmondson 2, Wambles 2, Sanders 6, Arnold 12.

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME:

ELBA 66

Z.C. 39

The Elba Tigers pulled ahead late in the second quarter and then pulled away late in the second half to defeat the Zion Chapel Rebels 66-39, to capture

the championship of the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament. The win improved the Tigers' record to 7-1, while the Rebels slipped to 1-7 with the loss.

Zion Chapel came out ready to play and grabbed a quick 3-0 lead with 3:35 left in the quarter. A free-throw by Jeremy Driver finally put the Bulldogs on the scoreboard with 3:27 remaining, and Kinston pulled even at 3-3 only seconds later on a lay-up by J.T. Wiggins.

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Billy McClain and Brandon Arnold sparked a 10-2 Rebel rally late in the quarter that helped Zion Chapel cut the Elba lead to 42-36, but the Tigers' Derrick Brooks nailed a long three-pointer at the buzzer to up the Elba lead to 45-30 with one quarter remaining.

A Derrick Brooks lay-up capped a 7-0 Elba run that put the Tigers on top 52-30 early in the fourth quarter, and the Tigers never backed down as they closed the game with a 10-2 run to open up a 66-39 lead.

John Mitchell scored 25 points to lead Elba, while Marcus Henderson added 17. Brandon Arnold scored 12 points to lead Zion Chapel.

Elba (66): English 3, Gavin 4, Williams 2, Wade 2, Henderson 17, Brooks 9, Coleman 4, Mitchell 25.

### CONSOLATION GAME:

KINSTON 70

ARITON 49

The Kinston Bulldogs woke up after a long first half nap to crush the Arton Purple Cats 70-

49 to claim consolation honors. The win upped Kinston's record to 6-4, while Arton slipped to 0-4 with the loss.

Neither team could find the basket early in the opening stanza as Arton crept out to a 3-0 lead with 3:35 left in the quarter. A free-throw by Jeremy Driver finally put the Bulldogs on the scoreboard with 3:27 remaining, and Kinston pulled even at 3-3 only seconds later on a lay-up by J.T. Wiggins.

The pace never picked up throughout the quarter. However, Kinston did connect on three of four free-throws late, and then grabbed an 8-5 lead on a short jumper by Shawn Brantley with 4:5 left on the clock.

Arton began to wake up early in the second quarter and moved on top 15-12 with 4:54 left in the half on a basket by T.R. Oliver, but Kinston quickly drew even at 15-15 on a three-pointer by Lee Whigham, and the teams swapped baskets for the remainder of the half as the rivals went in at intermission knotted at 26-26.

Brandon Arnold ended the Kinston drought with 6:47 left in the third quarter, but the Tigers were now in command and moved ahead 40-24 with 5:10 left in the stanza after a baseline jumper by Quinton Gavin.

Billy McClain and Brandon Arnold sparked a 10-2 Rebel rally late in the quarter that helped Zion Chapel cut the Elba lead to 42-36, but the Tigers' Derrick Brooks nailed a long three-pointer at the buzzer to up the Elba lead to 45-30 with one quarter remaining.

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John Mitchell scored 25 points to lead Elba, while Marcus Henderson added 17. Brandon Arnold scored 12 points to lead Zion Chapel.

Elba (66): English 3, Gavin 4, Williams 2, Wade 2, Henderson 17, Brooks 9, Coleman 4, Mitchell 25.

Z.C. (39): McClain 6, Taylor 7, Simmons 4, Edmondson 2, Wambles 2, Sanders 6, Arnold 12.

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME:

ELBA 66

Z.C. 39

The Elba Tigers pulled ahead late in the second quarter and then pulled away late in the second half to defeat the Zion Chapel Rebels 66-39, to capture

the championship of the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament. The win improved the Tigers' record to 7-1, while the Rebels slipped to 1-7 with the loss.

Zion Chapel came out ready to play and grabbed a quick 3-0 lead with 3:35 left in the quarter. A free-throw by Jeremy Driver finally put the Bulldogs on the scoreboard with 3:27 remaining, and Kinston pulled even at 3-3 only seconds later on a lay-up by J.T. Wiggins.

The pace never picked up throughout the quarter. However, Kinston did connect on three of four free-throws late, and then grabbed an 8-5 lead on a short jumper by Shawn Brantley with 4:5 left on the clock.

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Elba (66): English 3, Gavin 4, Williams 2, Wade 2, Henderson 17, Brooks 9, Coleman 4, Mitchell 25.

# SPORTS

At Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament

## Elba Lady Tigers defend title

The Elba Lady Tigers rolled to two easy wins last week to defend their title in the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament, hosted by Zion Chapel High School.

The Lady Tigers claimed wins over Kinston 49-36 and Zion Chapel 49-37 to bring home the championship trophy. Kinston placed third in the four-team tourney, followed by Arton in fourth.

Following are highlights of the tournament action:

### OPENING ROUND:

ELBA 49

KINSTON 36

The Elba Lady Tigers pulled out to an early 10-0 lead and never looked back as they rolled to a 49-36 win over the Kinston Lady Bulldogs.

Elba came out ready to take command against its cross-county rivals and did just that as Ayonna Proctor nailed a pair of three-pointers to score eight quick points to give the Lady Tigers a 10-0 lead with 4:58 left in the first quarter.

Kinston's Ramzi Smith scored four points to get the Lady Bulldogs on the scoreboard and cut the Elba lead to 10-4. However, the Lady Tigers moved ahead 13-4 on a three-pointer by Kerri Lantard, and by the end of the stanza owned a big 17-8 advantage.

Ayonna Proctor hit a short jumper with 7:33 left in the half to up the Elba lead to 19-8, and when Danae Ware scored from inside with 6:07 left, the Lady Tigers' lead was up to 23-10.

Rachel Grimes hit two short jumpers as the Lady Bulldogs trailed 23-14, and Kinston's Tiffany Dubose nailed a three-pointer late in the stanza. However, those were the only points Kinston could manage, while Elba's Rachel Bludworth scored a late surge that helped the Lady Tigers go in at intermission with a 33-17 lead.

Rachel Bludworth led an 8-0 Elba run to open the third quarter as the Lady Tigers' lead grew to 41-17, and Kinston's Danae Ware closed the game with a 44-21 lead into the final stanza.

Michelle Carpenter hit a three-pointer early in the fourth quarter as the Elba lead went to 47-22. However, Kinston took charge after that against the Lady Tiger back-ups and led by the scoring of Ramzi Smith and Tiffany Dubose closed with a tear to pull within 49-36 by the

end of the game. Rachel Bludworth scored 18 points to lead Elba, while Ayonna Proctor added 16, Ramzi Smith scored 11 points and Tiffany Dubose added 10 to lead Kinston.

Elba (49): Bludworth 18, Mack 4, Proctor 16, Lawford 3, Ware 5, Carpenter 3.

Kinston (36): Dubose 10, Smith 11, Grimes 8, Hunko 3, Wambles 2, Carnley 2.

Z.C. (48): Flowers 7, Scott 6, Rayburn 2, Ellis 8, Wambles 24, Legg 1.

Arton (40): Liptrot 21, Scypers 2, Sanders 1, Baxter 14, Flowers 2.

Kinston started off slow and trailed 6-5 with 3:02 remaining in the first quarter, but rallied late and carried a 9-6 lead into the second stanza after baskets by Elizabeth Farris and Tiffany Dubose.

Ramzi Smith sparked an early second quarter surge that helped the Lady Bulldogs open up a 15-7 lead, while it was Dubose that scored the final four points of the half as Kinston went in at intermission with a 20-12 advantage.

Tiffany Dubose and A.J. Carnley led a Lady Bulldog rally early in the third quarter as Kinston upped its lead to 25-14 with 5:00 remaining, and Dubose continued to score almost at will throughout the stanza as she helped the Lady Bulldogs grab a 31-18 lead with only one quarter left to play.

Arton staged a mild rally early in the fourth quarter to pull within 33-21. However, Ramzi Smith and Brittany Hunko led a Kinston surge that put the Lady Bulldogs on top 41-23 with 2:02 left on the clock, and the Lady Bulldogs easily held on to claim the impressive 46-27 victory.

Tiffany Dubose scored 14 points to lead Kinston, while Ramzi Smith added 12, and Rachel Elizabeth Farris and Brittany Hunko both added 7 points. Baxter scored 12 points to lead Arton.

Kinston (46): Dubose 14, Smith 12, Grimes 1, Hunko 7, Wambles 3, Carnley 2, Farris 7.

Arton (27): Liptrot 9, Brantley 5, Baxter 12, Flowers 3.

Z.C. (37): Flowers 12, Wambles 12, Scott 11, Rayburn 2.

The two county rivals swapped baskets early as the Lady Tigers moved ahead 4-2 on a jumper by Rachel Bludworth, only to see the pulled away late to pound the Arton Lady Purple Cats 46-27.

A three-pointer by Lagina Mack gave Elba a 7-4 lead with 3:40 left in the first quarter, while Tunisia Thigpen drilled a long three-pointer at the buzzer to put the Lady Tigers ahead 18-19, with 3:30 remaining in the half.

Elba used the inside scoring of Rachel Bludworth and Brittany Daniels, along with a three-pointer by Ayonna Proctor, to open up a 27-14 lead with 3:30 remaining in the half, and the Lady Tigers went in with a 30-18 lead on a three-pointer at the buzzer by Lagina Mack.

Zion Chapel cut into the Elba lead early in the third quarter and pulled within 33-23 with 4:04 left on a three-pointer by Inessa Wambles. However, the Lady Tigers woke up late in the third quarter, led by Rachel Bludworth, and Danae Ware closed out the stanza with a 14-2 run to carry a big 47-25 lead into the fourth quarter.

The Lady Tigers lead went to 49-25 with 4:46 remaining on a short jumper by Rachel Bludworth, and while Elba emptied its bench to allow its reserves to gain experience, the Lady Rebels took advantage of the Lady Tiger back-ups to close the game with a 12-0 run to cut the Elba lead to 49-37 by the end of the game.

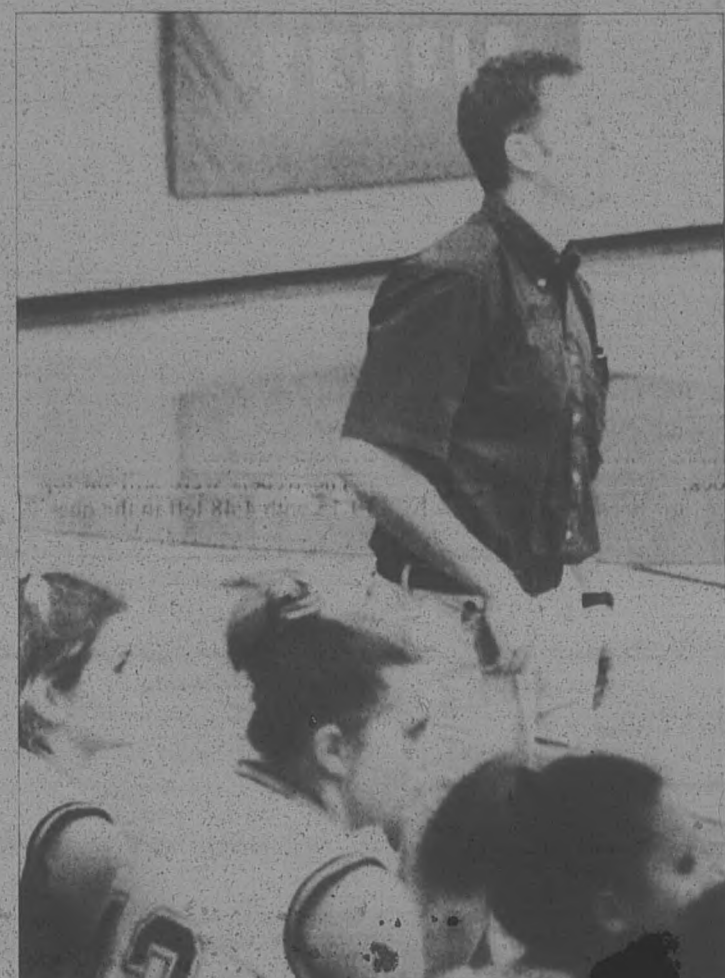
Lagina Mack scored 13 points to lead Elba, while Ayonna Proctor and Danae Ware both added 11, and Rachel Bludworth scored 10. Inessa Wambles and Jessica Flowers both scored 12 points to lead Zion Chapel while Bertha Scott added 11.

Elba (49): Bludworth 10, Daniels 2, Mack 13, Ware 11, Proctor 8, Thigpen 5.

Z.C. (37): Flowers 12, Wambles 12, Scott 11, Rayburn 2.



Elba's Rachel Bludworth takes a drink during a time-out in the Lady Tigers' championship game win over Zion Chapel in last week's Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament. The Lady Tigers defended their title with wins over Kinston and Zion Chapel.



Kinston Lady Bulldog head coach Keith Smith watches as his team roll past Arton in the consolation game of the Zion Chapel Christmas Tournament. The consolation win was the Lady Bulldogs' first win of the young season.

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THURSDAY, DEC. 27  
(Girls Division)  
Game 1 (9:00) - Florida vs. Andalusia  
Game 2 (12:00) - Pleasant Home vs. T.R. Miller  
Game 3 (3:00) - Opp vs. New Brockton  
Game 4 (6:00) - Red Level vs. Straughn (Boys Division)  
Game 1 (10:30) - Kinston vs. Excel  
Game 2 (11:30) - T.R. Miller vs. Georgiana  
Game 3 (4:30) - New Brockton vs. Florida  
Game 4 (7:30) - Opp vs. Red Level

FRIDAY, DEC. 28  
(Girls Division)  
Game 5 (9:00) - Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2  
Game 6 (12:00) - Loser Game 3 vs. Loser Game 4  
Game 7 (3:00) - Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2  
Game 8 (6:00) - Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 4 (Boys Division)  
Game 1 (10:30) - Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2  
Game 2 (11:30) - Loser Game 3 vs. Loser Game 4  
Game 3 (4:30) - Winner Game 1 vs.







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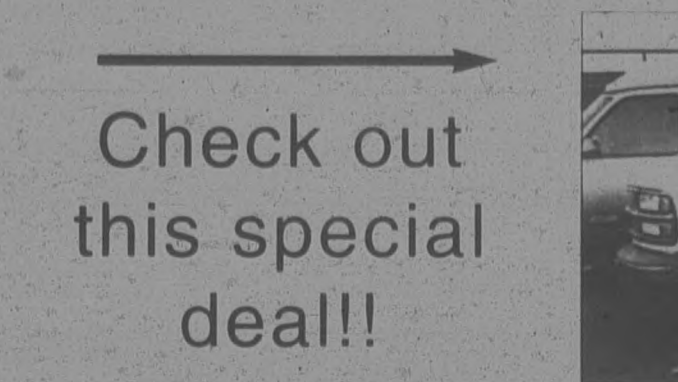
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